

19. (New) A medical data preservation method according to Claim 3, wherein the backup mode is selected arbitrarily from among at least one of a service use period, backup timing, and a kind of backup data.

20. (New) A medical data preservation system according to Claim 4, wherein the backup mode is selected arbitrarily from among at least one of a service use period, backup timing, and a kind of a backup data.

21. (New) A medical data preservation system according to Claim 20, wherein the backup mode is determined through communication between a service provider and a service receiver.

22. (New) A medical data preservation system according to Claim 21, wherein said control means controls a plurality of objects of backup according to the determined backup mode, and performs accounting on each object of backup.

23. (New) A medical data preservation system according to Claim 20, wherein said control means controls said image backup device according to the backup mode, and performs accounting according to the backup mode.

24. (New) A medical data preservation system according to Claim 23, wherein the backup mode is determined through communication between a service provider and a service receiver.

25. (New) A medical data preservation system according to Claim 24, wherein said control means controls a plurality of objects of backup according to the determined backup mode, and performs accounting on each object of backup.

26. (New) A medical data preservation method comprising:  
a backing up step of backing up medical image data stored in a storage device in an image backup device over a network; and  
a selecting step of selecting one backup mode among backup timings as the backup mode of said backing up step.

27. (New) A medical data preservation method according to Claim 26, wherein all of the medical image data stored in said storage device is backed up in the image backup device at any set time.

28. (New) A medical data preservation method according to Claim 27, wherein said set time is a time when every examination in one day is finished, which is repeated every day.

29. (New) A medical data preservation method comprising:  
a backing up step of backing up medical image data stored in  
a storage device in an image backup device over a network; and  
a selecting step of selecting one backup mode among kinds of  
5 backup data as the backup mode of said backing up step.

30. (New) A medical data preservation method according to  
Claim 29, wherein all of the medical image data stored in said  
storage device and acquired at each of a plurality of medical  
institutions is backed up at a time in the image backup device.

31. (New) A medical data preservation method according to  
Claim 29, wherein all of the medical image data stored in said  
storage device is backed up for each patient at a time in the  
image backup device.

32. (New) A medical data preservation method according to  
Claim 29, wherein all of the medical image data stored in said  
storage device is backed up for each of a plurality of  
examinations at a time in the image backup device.

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